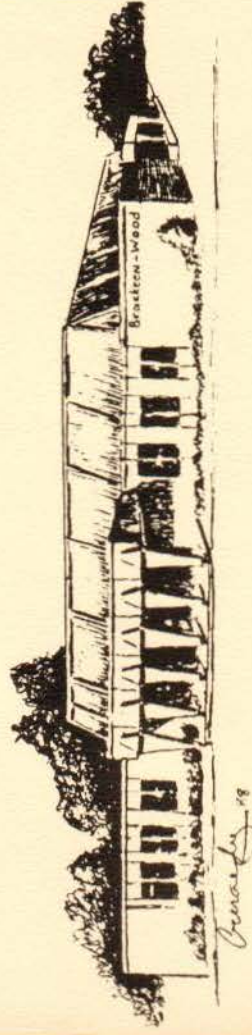


CONVOCATION  
honoring  
The naming of the  
**BRACKEEN - WOOD**  
Physical Education Building



Saturday, May 7, 1988  
2:00 P. M.



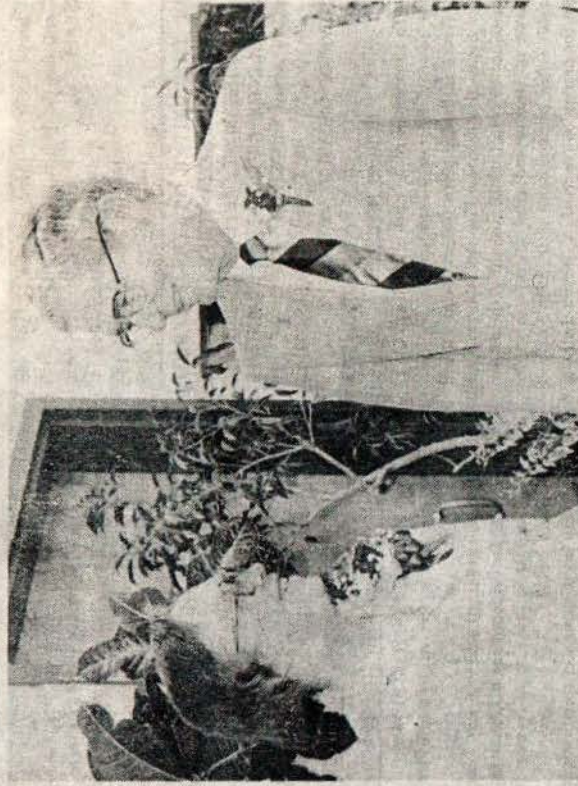
EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE  
A Bicentennial Campus

# PROGRAM

Prelude .....	ECJC Brass Ensemble
Processional .....	Prelude to Die Meistersinger Wagner
Master of Ceremonies .....	Dr. Eddie M. Smith President
Invocation .....	Rev. Barry Dickerson Decatur United Methodist Church
Welcome .....	Dr. Eddie M. Smith
Remarks .....	Mr. Henry B. Hudspeth Chairman, Board of Trustees
Introduction of Speakers	
Honoring Gen. Denver Brackeen .....	Dr. Brad Tucker Dean of Instruction
Comments.....	Mr. Arno Vincent
Comments .....	Dr. Brad Tucker
Response .....	General Denver Brackeen
Introduction of Speakers	
Honoring Miss Lucille Wood .....	Dr. Brad Tucker
Comments .....	Mrs. Lynn Russell Hayes
Comments .....	Miss Sheila Welch
Response .....	Miss Lucille Wood
Benediction .....	Rev. Kent H. Cochran Louisville Calvary Baptist Church
Recessional .....	Prelude to Act Three, Lohengrin Wagner

A reception will follow the ceremony in the classroom area of the Brackeen - Wood Physical Education Building. Everyone is invited.





championships in 1976, 1979 and 1980, and she took teams to Regions' Tournament in 1973, 1977, 1978, 1980, and 1985.

Her tennis teams won state titles in 1965 (men's doubles); 1965 (men's singles); 1968 (men's singles); and 1968 (women's singles).

Miss Wood was named National Junior College "coach of the Year" top twenty and Mississippi Association of Coaches "Coach of the Year" in 1979.

She was recently named to the Mississippi Junior College Athletic Association Executive Committee, which regulates athletics in the state's junior colleges. Miss Wood also serves as Regional director for the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Miss Wood said her success was due not only from the support she received from the administration but because she was surrounded by outstanding students.

She said, "We all must look to the future ... that goals of education can be achieved."

Miss Wood said all the days at East Central are "happy" days, thanks mainly to the students, in whose help "setbacks quickly turn to victories."

Following the dedication ceremony, a reception was held in honor of General Brackeen and Miss Wood.

## Brackeen-Wood Dedication

Miss Lucille Wood and General Denver Brackeen pause to reflect on the day's activities following the May 7 dedication of the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building at East Central Junior College in Decatur. (ECJC Photo) 1988

# Brackeen-Wood Phy-Ed Building Dedicated

The new physical education facility at ECJC called the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building, was formally dedicated during ceremonies held inside the building recently.

General Denver Brackeen serves as Assistant Adjutant General in the Mississippi National Guard and Miss Lucille Wood is still a member of the ECJC teaching staff.

Besides remarks made by ECJC President Dr. Eddie M. Smith, other tributes were offered by Henry B. "Bubba" Hudspeth of Louisville, ECJC Board of Trustees Chairman; Dr. Brad Tucker, Dean of Instruction; former ECJC President Arno

team captain for the 1975 squad, and Miss Shelia Welch, named the 1982 permanent team captain. Besides being outstanding athletes, each was also inducted into the ECJC Hall of Fame.

Mrs. Hayes said Miss Wood set high but fair standards for her players and student to achieve.

"She encouraged us to participate in other activities besides sports ... to experience the game of life, not just the game of athletics," Mrs. Hayes said.

Miss Welch said Wood instilled in her players that winning alone is not enough, but that "we should help others and contribute to



Vincent of Meridian; and former ECJC student-athletes Mrs. Lynn Russell Hayes and Miss Sheila Welch.

Other program participants included the Rev. Barry Dickerson, pastor, Decatur United Methodist Church, who gave the invocation and the Rev. Kent H. Cochran, pastor, Louisville Calvary Baptist Church, who gave the benediction.

Music was provided by the ECJC Brass Ensemble, directed by Tom Carson.

Brackeen, who became East Central's first All American basketball player following the 1952-53 season, described the occasion as "the greatest thing to ever happen to me."

Brackeen led the Warriors that season to district and state championships and a fourth place finish in National Junior College Tournament.

While participating in the national tourney, Brackeen scored a record 53 points in one game. He was later selected as the nation's most valuable player.

During his final season at East Central, Brackeen averaged 32 points per contest.

His coach at ECJC Arno Vincent,

society."

In response, Miss Wood gave credit to many people but especially thanked Mr. Vincent who, as ECJC President, helped "to open the eyes" of a rural Winston County girls.

Before she began her successful coaching career at East Central, Miss Wood was recongized as an outstanding athlete herself, as she ws named "Female Athlete of the Year" at Louisville High School.

Miss Wood's impressive coaching stint at East Central began in 1956 following three seasons at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College.

She coached women's basketball from 1956 to 1985; men's and women's tennis, 1956 to 1976; volleyball, 1966 to 1971; and served as Director of Women's Intramurals from 1956 to 1976.

In 1968, the first basketball tournament for college women since 1954 was held at East Central and Miss Wood's Warriorettes defeated MSCW for the championship title.

The East Central women won state titles in 1970, 1973, 1976, and 1979. Miss Wood's squads division

His coach at ECJC Arno Vincent, said Brackeen is a member of "everybody's Hall of Fame."

Dr. Tucker said it was 41 years ago when, as a student, he watched Denver Brackeen play for Hickory High School and described the young athlete as "the best I have ever seen."

Dr. Tucker called attention to the fact that Brackeen was not only chosen an All American, but was also selected as the most valuable player in the United States.

Not only was Brackeen a "great athlete," the ECJC Dean of Instruction also praised his accomplishments as a coach, as he won two-thirds of the games in which he led the men's basketball program.

Nicknamed the "ECJC Soldier," Tucker noted Brackeen's rise from a buck private to a general came while he was associated with East Central Junior College.

"We've had many students to earn the rank of general, but none has accomplished that feat while being associated with the college the entire time," Tucker said.

Dr. Tucker also praised Brackeen as an "outstanding" Dean of Students, a post he held for almost 22 years.

In introducing Miss Wood, Dr. Tucker referred to her and General Brackeen as the "All-Around Mr. and Miss ECJC," if "such a designation could be made."

Dr. Tucker added it was "indeed fitting" for two students to make comments about Miss Wood, as she always strived to bring out the best in her players and students.

Selected to make comments about Miss Wood were Mrs. Lynn Russell Hayes, chosen permanent



# Brackeen-Wood Building Dedication Set For May 7

*Newspaper Record*  
East Central Junior College in  
Decatur will honor two of its most  
outstanding alumni when the col-  
lege officially names the physical  
education building the "Brackeen-  
Wood Physical Education Build-  
ing," in honor of Denver Brackeen  
and Lucille Wood.

*4-13-88*  
etal's post on a part-time basis in  
1983 and became full time Assis-  
tant in 1984.

Brackeen has been elected as  
"Alumnus of the Year" by ECJC  
alumni and was an overwhelming  
choice to be the first inductee into  
the ECJC Athletic Hall of Fame in  
1986.

Miss Wood, a native of Louis-  
ville, is still a member of the ECJC  
staff and has received many honors  
during her 35 years of coaching and  
teaching. She is regarded as a  
pioneer in organizing women's ba-  
sketball for junior and senior col-  
leges and junior college tennis  
competition.

She has been named ECJC's  
"Alumnus of the Year" and was  
inducted into the ECJC Athletic  
Hall of Fame in 1987.  
Her coaching career at East Cen-  
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concluded 32 years later.  
Miss Wood coached women's  
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men's and women's tennis, 1956 to  
1976; volleyball, 1966-1971; and  
served as Director of Women's  
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In 1968, the first basketball tour-  
nament for college women since  
1954 was held at East Central and  
Miss Wood's Warriorettes defeated  
MSCW for the championship.  
The East Central women won  
state titles in 1970, 1973, 1976 and  
1979. Miss Wood's squads won

division championships in 1976,  
1979 and 1980, and she took teams  
to the Regions Tournament in 1973,  
1977, 1978, 1980 and 1985.

Twenty-five of her players were  
named to the first team All-State  
squads and 13 team members  
signed senior college scholarships.  
Also, two players were named most  
valuable in the annual All-Star  
game, 12 were named to the All  
Region first team, three to the All  
Region Tournament teams, two to  
the Kodak All Region Team, one to  
the NJCAA All American second  
team, and one to the NJCAA All-  
Star team. Nine women were  
named most valuable players in  
their divisions.

Her tennis teams won state titles  
in 1965 (men's doubles); 1965  
(men's singles); 1968 (men's sin-  
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Miss Wood was named National  
Junior College "Coach of the  
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She was recently named to the  
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tion Executive Committee, which  
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While participating in the na-  
tional tournament, Brackeen scored  
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most valuable player and was  
named on All American.

Before playing at East Central,  
Brackeen led Hickory to a 51-1  
record his senior year. Twice he  
was named to the All-State squad.

Following his successful career  
at East Central, Brackeen was re-  
cruited by over 100 colleges and he  
chose the University of Mississippi

chose the University of Mississippi  
to continue his basketball career.

At Ole Miss, he averaged 28 points per game and was named by Look Magazine as the most valuable basketball player in District V which consisted of nine southern states.

Brackeen was drafted by the New York Knickerbockers and was the team for three months before returning to East Central as coach, where his teams posted 137 wins against 52 losses seven seasons.

He was later named the first Dean of Students in Mississippi Public Junior Colleges in 1962 and gave up coaching for full time student service work in 1963.

Brackeen completed 28 years of the ECJC staff serving one or more years as coach, guidance counselor, admissions director, dean of students, and academic dean. Twenty-one of those years were devoted to dean of students administrative work.

Brackeen advanced through the ranks from a private in the Mississippi National Guard unit (1949) to Brigadier General in 1983. He accepted the Assistant Adjutant Gen



# Physical Education Building Named For Brackeen, Wood

The Physical Education Building at East Central Junior College in Decatur has been named in honor of two of its outstanding graduates who returned to their alma mater in various capacities.

One of the honorees became ECJC's first All American basketball player and the other is regarded as a pioneer in organizing women's basketball for junior and senior colleges and junior college tennis competition.

Now called the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building, the facility is named in honor of Denver Brackeen and Lucille Wood, announced Dr. Eddie Smith, ECJC President.

Tommy Thrash, ECJC Social Science instructor who serves as committee chairman for the dedication, said formal dedication of the facility will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 7.

## DENVER BRACKEEN

Brackeen is a graduate of Hickory High School, East Central Junior College and the University of Mississippi with bachelor's and master's degrees. He completed 30 semester hours of graduate credit beyond the masters in guidance and student personnel services area.

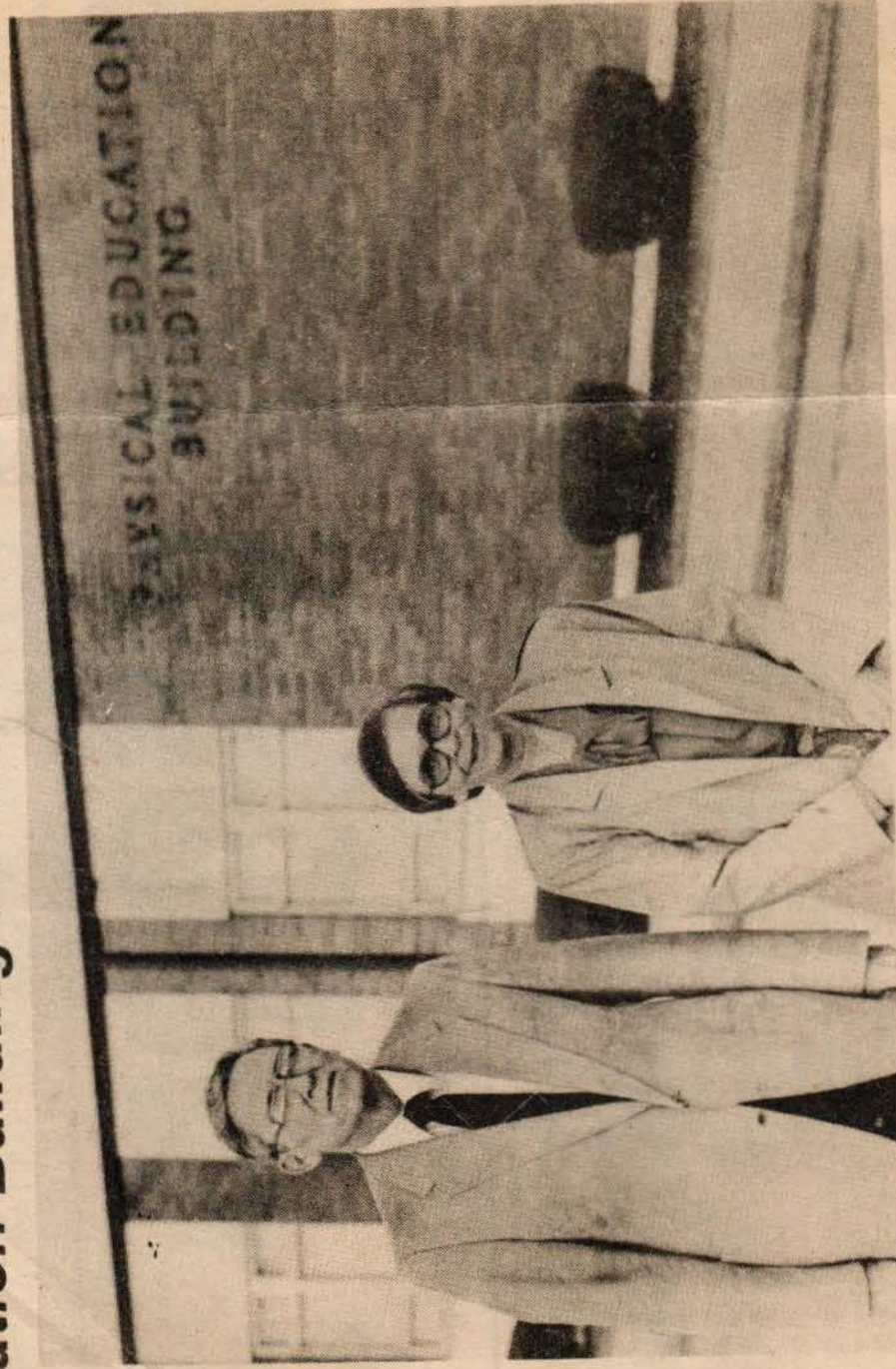
He led Hickory to a 51-1 record his senior year and was twice named to the All-State squad.

Brackeen made the All-State Junior College Team as a freshman. He was called to active duty during his sophomore year.

While in the service, Brackeen made the All-Third Army Team and was selected most valuable player.

Brackeen returned to East Central and averaged 32 points a game in 1952-53. He led the Warriors to state and district championships and to a fourth place finish at the National Junior College Tournament.

While participating in the national tournament, Brackeen scored a record 53 points in



Denver Brackeen and Lucille Wood stand in front of the ECJC Physical Education Building, recently named in their honor. The complex is now called the Brackeen-Wood Physical Education Building.

Brackeen is by far the best know EC athlete," said Dr. Smith.

## LUCILLE WOOD

Miss Wood is a graduate of Louisville High School, East Central Junior College and the University of Southern Mississippi, where she received bachelor's and master's

two to the Kodak All Region Team, one to the NJCAA All-American second team and one to the NJCAA All-Star team, and nine women were named most valuable player in their division.

Her tennis teams won state titles in 1956 (men's doubles), 1965 (men's singles), 1968 (men's singles), and 1968 (women's

Junior College Athletic Association.

"In the history of East Central Junior College, no other woman has contributed more to the development of the athletic and physical education programs than Miss Lucille Wood," said Dr. Smith.

Dr. Smith added there is "no question of Miss Wood's devotion and loyalty to East



tion's most valuable player and became ECJC's first All-American basketball player. Recruited by over 100 colleges, Brackeen chose the University of Mississippi, where he was twice named to the All Southeastern Conference teams. He was also selected the SEC's most valuable player and was named All-American his senior year.

Brackeen, who averaged 28 points per game at Ole Miss, was named by Look magazine as the most valuable basketball player in District 5, which consisted of nine southern states.

He was drafted by the New York Knickerbockers and was on the team for three months before returning to East Central as coach.

Brackeen coached seven years at ECJC, where his teams posted 137 wins against 52 losses.

He was named the first Dean of Students in Mississippi Police Junior Colleges in 1962 and gave up coaching for full time student service work in 1963.

Brackeen completed 28 years on the ECJC staff serving one or more years as coach, guidance counselor, admissions director, dean of students and Academic Dean.

Twenty-one of those years were devoted to Dean of Students administrative work.

Brackeen advanced through the ranks from a private in the national guard unit in 1949-50 to Brigadier General in 1983.

He accepted the Assistant Adjutant General's post on a part-time basis in 1983 and became full-time Assistant in 1984.

Brackeen has been elected as "Alumnus of the Year" by ECJC alumni and was an overwhelming choice to be the first inductee of the Athletic Hall of Fame.

"As the most publicized ECJC athlete of all time, the first All-American basketball player at the college, the only EC athlete ever named most valuable in the nation, a winning basketball coach with the second longest tenure in men's basketball at ECJC,

She has completed 63 semester hours beyond the master's from USM, Mississippi State University and the University of Mississippi.

At Louisville, Wood was a member of the basketball and track teams and was a letter-winner in basketball and tennis at East Central.

She could only participate in intramurals at USM, since no varsity sports were available at that time for women. Her intramural teams won championships in basketball, volleyball, co-ed volleyball, softball, tennis doubles and badminton.

Miss Wood's successful coaching career began at Copiah-Lincoln Junior College in 1953. At Co-Lin, she coached women's and men's tennis and also directed high school girls' basketball and high school girls' and boys' tennis.

Her coaching career at East Central began in 1956 and successfully concluded 32 years later.

Miss Wood coached women's basketball from 1956 to 1985; men's and women's tennis, 1956-76; volleyball, 1966 to 1971; and served as Director of Women's Intramurals from 1956 to 1976.

In 1968, the first basketball tournament for college women since 1954 was held at East Central. Miss Wood's Warriorettes defeated MSCW for the championship.

The East Central women won state championships in 1970, 1973, 1976, and 1979. Miss Wood's squads won division titles in 1976, 1979 and 1980; and took teams to the Regions Tournament in 1973, 1977, 1978, 1980, and 1985.

Twenty-five of her players were named to the first All-State squads and 13 team members signed senior college scholarships.

Also, two players were chosen most valuable in the annual All-Star game, 12 were named to the All-Region First Team, three to the All Region Tournament teams,

Central. She has been involved with many phases of campus life since those days when she entered the college as a freshman and as a member of the women's basketball team in 1949," he said.

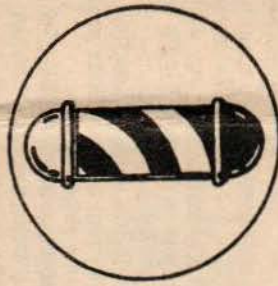
Miss Wood, who is still a member of the ECJC teaching staff, has received many honors during her 35 years of coaching and teaching. She has been named as ECJC's "Alumnus of the Year" and was inducted into the ECJC Athletic Hall of Fame in 1987.

She was named National Junior College Coach of the Year top twenty and Mississippi Association of Coaches Coach of the Year in 1979. Her name is included in Who's Who in the Southwest and Who's Who of American Women.

She was recently named to the Mississippi Junior College Association Executive committee, which regulates athletics in the state's junior colleges. Miss Wood was also elected Regional Director for the National



## ESTES BARBER



## SHOP

**James Estes**  
Owner

124 South Main  
Newton, MS

Phone  
601-683-6131





BRACKEEN-WOOD CONVOCATION  
May 7, 1988

Notes

INVOCATION

- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE SHALL BEGIN THIS CONVOCATION WITH A PRAYER LED BY REV. BARRY DICKERSON, PASTOR OF THE DECATUR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.
- PLEASE REMAIN SEATED AS REV. DICKERSON LEADS US.

WELCOME

- IT IS INDEED A PLEASURE FOR ME TO STAND BEFORE YOU TODAY AND WELCOME YOU TO SUCH A MOMENTOUS OCCASION.
- CERTAINLY THIS CONVOCATION IS ONE OF THOSE RARE HAPPENINGS WHEN NOT ONLY WILL TWO MOST WORTHY AND DESERVING PEOPLE BE HONORED AND RECOGNIZED, IT IS ALSO A DAY THAT WILL BE FOREVER MARKED IN THE HISTORY OF EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE AS A TIME WHEN MEMORIES WERE BOTH RECALLED AND CREATED.
- TO MISS LUCILLE WOOD AND TO GENERAL DENVER BRACKEEN, I MUST SAY AT THIS TIME THAT I AM HONORED TO BE A PART OF THIS CONVOCATION.
- VERY FEW INDIVIDUALS HAVE GATHERED THE STATUS, THE ACCLAIM, AND THE RESPECT THAT YOU, MISS WOOD, AND YOU, GEN. BRACKEEN, HAVE GATHERED.
- TO SHARE THESE MOMENTS WITH YOU IS A HIGH POINT FOR ALL OF US WHO ARE GATHERED HERE.
- WE HAVE QUITE A NUMBER OF GUESTS WITH US THIS AFTERNOON.
- TO RECOGNIZE EACH OF OUR IMPORTANT GUESTS WOULD ENTAIL THE RECOGNITION OF EACH ONE OF YOU, FOR YOU ARE ALL IMPORTANT.



- WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE
- MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE
  - SENATOR M. G. BOND
  - SENATOR ALAN HEFLIN
  - SENATOR TERRY JORDAN
  - REPRESENTATIVE SHELTON "BUCK" BOUNDS
  - REPRESENTATIVE RAYMOND COMANS
  - REPRESENTATIVE DICK LIVINGSTON
  - REPRESENTATIVE BENNETT MALONE
  - REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT J. MOODY
- COUNTY AND CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS
- MEMBERS OF THE EAST CENTRAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES
- MEMBERS OF THE FAMILIES OF OUR HONOREES
  - (FAMILY OF MISS WOOD)
  - MISS LORENE WOOD (SISTER)
  - MR. AND MRS. JIM WOOD (BROTHER)
  - MRS. DEBORAH DUNCAN, BRANDI AND GREG (NIECE)
- (FAMILY OF GEN. BRACKEEN)
  - MRS. DENVER BRACKEEN
  - MORGAN AND JONDI BRACKEEN AND SON JONATHAN IN ARMS (SON)
  - CHARLIE BRACKEEN (SON)
  - MRS. VERA BRACKEEN (MOTHER)
  - MRS. ETHEL WELLS (MOTHER-IN-LAW)
  - W. M. BRACKEEN, JR. AND FAMILY (BROTHER)
- AND MANY, MANY FRIENDS OF OUR HONOREES.
- TO EACH OF YOU WE EXTEND OUR SINCEREST WELCOME.
- AT THIS TIME, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO RECOGNIZE THE CHAIRMAN OF OUR BOARD OF TRUSTEES, MR. HENRY B. (BUBBA) HUDSPETH WHO WILL MAKE SOME COMMENTS.



- WE AT EAST CENTRAL ARE INDEED FORTUNATE TO HAVE A PERSON OF MR. HUDSPETH'S EXPERTISE, KNOWLEDGE, AND CONCERN SERVE AS OUR BOARD CHAIRMAN.

- MR. HUDSPETH

(DR. TUCKER WILL NOT BE INTRODUCED.)

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- MISS WOOD AND GENERAL BRACKEEN, I KNOW THAT THIS WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED AS A RED LETTER DAY IN YOUR LIVES.

- CERTAINLY EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED AND BLESSED BECAUSE OF YOUR ASSOCIATION WITH OUR COLLEGE.

- WE THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT PORTION OF YOUR LIVES THAT YOU HAVE SHARED WITH EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE.

- *CONGRATULATIONS FOR THIS HIGH HONOR - APPLAUSE*

- BEFORE WE DEPART, I DO WANT TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE THANKS TO THE CONVOCATION COMMITTEE FOR PLANNING ALL OF THE DETAILS FOR THIS EVENT.

- MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WERE:

- MR. TOMMY THRASH, CHAIRMAN

- MR. A. J. KILPATRICK

- MRS. ALICE POUNCEY

- MR. BUBBY JOHNSTON

- MRS. JESSIE EVERETT

- MR. CLINTON RUSSELL

- DR. SHELBY HARRIS

- MR. BRUCE PETERSON

- THANK YOU (APPLAUSE).

- WE DO INVITE ALL OF YOU FOR THE RECEPTION THAT WILL FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY IN THE CLASS ROOM AREAS OF THIS BUILDING.
- WE ASK THAT YOU ~~PERMIT THE PLATFORM GUESTS TO MOVE TO THE RECEPTION AREA FIRST AFTER THE BENEDICTION.~~ *Remain standing for the recessional.*

#### BENEDICTION

- WOULD YOU PLEASE STAND AT THIS TIME FOR THE BENEDICTION WHICH WILL BE GIVEN BY REV. KENT H. COCHRAN, PASTOR OF THE CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOUISVILLE.
- REV. COCHRAN.





L. Wood

Denver Brackeen

Brackeen - Wood